IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method to pre-approve a bidder for network-based shopping, the method including:

>   receiving an authorization communication, over a network, at a network-based auction facility, the authorization communication to authorize the bidder to bid on a particular sale listing that is listed for sale by a seller; and

>   at the network-based auction facility, automatically recording the bidder as authorized to bid on the particular sale listing responsive to the <u>authorization</u> communication.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the network-based auction facility requires <u>the</u> seller to authorize the bidder before the bidder ~~may bid~~ <u>bids</u> on the particular sale listing.

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the authorization communication includes a seller request to authorize bidders to bid on the particular sale listing.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the authorization communication includes allowing the seller to add and to remove an authorization restriction multiple times during an auction pertaining to the particular sale listing.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, including ~~receivng~~ <u>receiving</u> a request communication, the request communication including a bidder request to the seller to authorize the bidder to bid on the particular sale listing.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, including providing access, to the seller, to a bidding history associated with the bidder and profile information associated with the bidder thereby to assist the seller in determining whether to authorize the bidder to bid on the particular sale listing.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the bidding history and the profile information are provided by the network-based auction facility.

9.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the particular sale listing includes an at least one listing from a group of listings including of a charity listing, an events listing and a holiday promotions listing.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the network-based auction facility includes an auction web site.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein an authorization restriction requirement is displayed on a web page that includes information regarding the particular sale listing.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein seller vetting process information is displayed on a personalized web page of the seller that is linked to a web page of the particular sale listing.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the seller authorizes only a predetermined currency to be used to purchase the particular sale listing that is listed for sale by the seller.

15.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the seller authorizes a

predetermined geographic area, and wherein if the bidder is within the predetermined geographic

area then the bidder is allowed, by the network-based auction facility, to bid on the particular

sale listing that is listed for sale by the seller and a further if the bidder is outside the

predetermined geographic area then the bidder is prevented from bidding on the particular sale

listing.

16.   (Currently Amended) A method to pre-approve a buyer for network-based shopping, the

method including:

        receiving an authorization communication, over a network, at a network-based shopping

                facility the authorization communication to authorize the buyer to buy a particular

                offering offered for sale by a seller; and

        at the network-based auction facility, automatically recording the buyer as authorized to

                buy the particular offering responsive to the authorization communication.

17.   (Previously Presented) A system to pre-approve a bidder for network-based shopping,

the system including:

        a communications module to communicate between a network-based auction facility and

                a seller; and

        an authorization module to record a seller authorization of a bidder to bid on a particular

                sale listing via the communication.

18.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the authorization module requires

the seller to authorize the bidder before the bidder may bid bids on the particular sale listing.

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the authorization

communication includes a seller request to authorize bidders to bid on the particular sale listing.

21.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the seller can add and remove the pre-approval restriction multiple times during the auction pertaining to the particular sale listing.

22.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20, ~~including~~ wherein the communication module is to receive ~~receiving~~ a request communication, the request communication including a bidder request to the seller to authorize the bidder to bid on the particular sale listing.

23.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the communications module is to provide access, to the seller, to a bidding history associated with the bidder and profile information associated with the bidder thereby to assist the seller in determining whether to authorize the bidder to bid on the particular sale listing.

24.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, wherein the bidding history and the profile information are provided by the network-based auction facility.

25.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the particular sale listing includes ~~an~~ at least one sales listing from a group of sales listings including of a charity sales listing, an events sales listing and a holiday promotions sales listing.

26.   (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the network includes the Internet.

27.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the network-based auction facility includes an auction web site.

28.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein an authorization restriction requirement is displayed on a view item web page.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE   Page 6
Serial Number: 09/881,911   Dkt: 2043.044US1
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         SHOPPING FACILITY

29.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein seller vetting process information is displayed on a personalized web page of the seller that is linked to a web page of the particular sale listing.

30.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the seller authorizes only a predetermined currency to be used to purchase the particular sale listing that is listed for sale by the seller.

31.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the seller authorizes a predetermined geographic area, and wherein if the bidder is within the predetermined geographic area then the bidder is allowed, by the network-based auction facility, to bid on the particular sale listing that is listed for sale by the seller and a further if the bidder is outside the predetermined geographic area then the bidder is prevented from bidding on the particular sale listing.

32.   (Previously Presented) A system to pre-approve a buyer for network-based shopping, the system including:

       a communications module to communicate between a network-based shopping facility and a seller; and

       an authorization module to record a seller authorization of a buyer to buy a particular offering via the communication.

33.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions to translate instructions, the set instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method to:

       communicate between a network-based auction facility and a seller, the communication to authorize a bidder to bid on a particular sale listing that is listed for sale by the seller; and

automatically record the bidder as authorized to bid on the particular sale listing

responsive to the communication.

34.   (Currently Amended) A system to pre-approve a bidder for network-based shopping
including:

a first means for <u>receiving</u> a communication between a network-based auction facility

and a seller; and

a second means for <u>automatically recording</u> a seller authorization of a bidder to bid on a

particular sale listing responsive to the communication.

35.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a set of
instructions to translate instructions, the set of instructions, which when executed by a processor,
cause the processor to perform a method to:

communicate between a network-based auction facility and a seller, the communication

to authorize a buyer to buy a particular offering offered for sale by the seller; and

automatically record the buyer as authorized to buy the particular offering responsive to

the communication.